



## *Navy Regional Fire Rescue Hampton Roads*

# NEWS

March 2004

### Chiefs Corner

Congratulations to our 2003 Fire department award winners who have been listed below in their specific categories. A Fire Chief has no greater pleasure then to award his personnel for outstanding duty, commitment, and professionalism. The fire department award program is a program specifically designed for our FD personnel. Who better to recommend or judge the actions, abilities, and commitment of our FD membership than the firefighters, fire protection specialists, and fire prevention personnel we work with each day. Special thanks to the fire department awards committee for their continued hard work and support of the program. Thanks to all our personnel who took the extra time to acknowledge and submit awards packages for their fellow peers, superiors, and subordinates. We will forward the awards ceremony date as soon as it becomes available.

In addition, NRFRHR submitted awards packages for the 2003 DONF&ES award program. These submissions nominate personnel for the Civilian firefighter of the year award, Supervisor of the year award, and fire department of the year award. Good luck to all of us for the upcoming DON and possibly DOD awards.

James P. Meagher

#### Supervisor of the Year Award

District Chief James Kline

#### Employee of the Year Award

Firefighter Douglas Von Wald

#### Meritorious Service Award

Training Officer Amos Batts  
Fire Mechanic Ralph Bilger  
Captain Hugh Dougherty  
Firefighter Gregory Durick  
Firefighter Thomas Greeley  
Captain Gary Greer

Firefighter Christopher Hubmer  
Training Officer Kevin Janney  
Fire Inspector Michael Lopez  
Firefighter John Pugh  
Fire Mechanic David Rupert  
Captain Donald Washburn

#### Unit Commendation Award - Mobile Aircraft Firefighting Training Team

Firefighter Terry Anglen  
Firefighter Todd Belding  
Captain George Bergamini  
Lieutenant George Davis  
Lieutenant Aaron Densley

Firefighter Joel Klouzal  
Firefighter Joseph Krieger  
Captain Michael Pezzella  
Firefighter Joseph Ray  
Captain Kenneth Russell

Firefighter Gregory Durick  
Captain Ernest Hensley  
Firefighter John Hewitt

Captain Donald Washburn  
Firefighter Robert Zappia

*Unit Commendation Award - Rehabilitation Trailer Construction Team*  
*Virginia Beach Fire District*

Captain George Bergamini  
Firefighter Michael Bradberry

Firefighter James Milliser  
Firefighter Christopher Hubmer

*Unit Commendation Award - USS Truman Responders*  
*Portsmouth Fire District*

Firefighter Larry Ardelji  
Firefighter Michael Baker  
Firefighter Eric Belwood  
Captain Bradley Burgess  
Firefighter Shawn Charity  
Firefighter Terrence Clark  
Captain Williams Eubanks  
Firefighter Derrick Fisher  
Firefighter Ronald Godsey  
Firefighter Harold Harper

Firefighter Robert Hechinger  
Firefighter David Madsen  
Firefighter Brian Marcum  
Battalion Chief George Ridgwell  
Firefighter Richard Saunders  
Firefighter Brian Shaver  
Assistant Chief Clarence Spells  
Captain Richard Stickle  
Firefighter Michael Wise

*Unit Commendation Award - USS Florida/USS Nassau Responders*  
*Portsmouth Fire District*

Firefighter Larry Ardelji  
Firefighter Michael Baker  
Firefighter Eric Belwood  
Firefighter Randall Benedict  
Captain Bradley Burgess  
Firefighter Shawn Charity  
Firefighter Terrence Clark  
Captain Williams Eubanks  
Firefighter Derrick Fisher  
Firefighter Michael Foley  
Firefighter Joseph Glass  
Firefighter Ronald Godsey  
Firefighter Dennis Gosey  
Firefighter Harold Harper

Firefighter Robert Hechinger  
Captain Marvin Hereford  
Firefighter David Madsen  
Firefighter Brian Marcum  
Battalion Chief George Ridgwell  
Firefighter Richard Saunders  
Firefighter Brian Shaver  
Firefighter Royce Solomon  
Assistant Chief Clarence Spells  
Captain Richard Stickle  
Firefighter Charles Vallas  
Captain Thomas White  
Firefighter Michael Wise



**Unit Commendation Award - EA6-B Crash Responders**

**Sewells Point District**

Firefighter Terry Anglen	Lieutenant Michael King
Captain Willie Barnette	Lieutenant James Leary
Training Officer John Bebb	Lieutenant Gerard McElroy
Firefighter Todd Belding	Firefighter Robert Nipper
Firefighter Derek Dannhaeuser	Firefighter Ryan Robertson
Lieutenant Steven Davis	Firefighter John Sands
Captain Gilbert F. Falk	Lieutenant Michael Scott
Battalion Chief Royal Greer	Lieutenant Christopher Struble
Captain Jeffrey Harris	Captain Michael Whaley
Firefighter Gregory Kearney	Firefighter Harry Winfrey

**Unit Commendation Award - C-130 Mass Casualty Incident**

**Virginia Beach Fire District**

Captain Ricky Berry	Firefighter Terrance Jackson
Firefighter Jock Boardraye	Firefighter Barry Loop
Firefighter Gerald Burkett	Battalion Chief Rock Lyon
Firefighter Matthew Champney	Firefighter George Randolph
Firefighter James Curcio	Firefighter David Strickland
Firefighter Leeland Desroche	Assistant Chief Steven Vogt
Firefighter Steven Dennis	Firefighter Lynwood Yeatts
Firefighter Joseph Graber	Captain James Watson
Firefighter John Hewitt	

## Arrivals and Departures

- **Congratulations! To the following personnel on their promotions:**
  - Roy Greer to Assistant Chief - Virginia Beach Fire District
  - Scott Whaley to Battalion Chief - Sewells Point Fire District
- **Welcome Aboard! To the following personnel:**
  - Rodney Creedon - Little Creek Fire District
  - Christopher Scudder - Sewells Point Fire District
- **Good Luck and Farewell! To the following personnel:**
  - Craig Vanderau - Portsmouth Fire District
  - Joseph Ray - Virginia Beach Fire District
- **The following personnel were transferred this period:**
  - District Chief Mark Chaney - Peninsula Fire District
  - District Chief Willie Dinkins - Little Creek Fire District
  - District Chief Roger Fawcett - Portsmouth Fire District
  - District Chief George Hurley - Virginia Beach Fire District
  - District Chief James Kline - Sewells Point Fire District

# Suggestions

As suggestions are finalized in the Newsletter they will not be published in future editions. Please when making suggestions keep in mind that if you have a suggestion regarding a specific district or fire station please include the specific location in your suggestion submission. Also, please utilize the suggestion boxes and suggestion form. We received some suggestions by way of guard mail and some that were not in the suggestion format and left out information needed to properly address the suggestion. We had to make some assumptions in addressing the authors concerns. Please be as specific as possible in your submissions.

## Item #47 Sewells Point: District Meeting

- **Issue:** I think that this dept. could be a great place to work but I think we need to come together and have a shift meeting, "A" shift and "B" shift on a weekend, and I think we should not get paid for it, I hear people complain about this dept. but I never hear about anything getting done. So I think we should get together and talk about it with all the Chiefs and lay it all out on the line, because this is our dept. and we make it what it is, you can respond to this letter in the NRFRHR Newsletter.
- **Submitter Recommendation:** Have an all personnel meeting at SP District.
- **Regional Initiative:** I support the idea of more communication within our department however bringing together 130 off duty personnel to Sewells Point Fire District under the discretion of FD supervisors is inappropriate.
- **Status:** Not accepted.

## Issue #48 Portsmouth: Uniform SOP Amendment (attached as PDF)

- **Submitter Recommendation:** Amend the current regional uniform SOP to include provisions for:
  - Black wool cap with NRFRHR logo.
  - Hooded version of the current sweatshirt. Zip up or pullover, and/or pockets in the lower front.
  - Black leather gloves
  - Long sleeve/short sleeve version of collared traditional uniform shirt, navy blue in color.
  - Current polo shirt except with name and rank embroidered on the right breast adjacent to the NRFRHR logo.
  - Utility jacket to be worn with work uniform.
- **Regional Initiative:** As previously stated fire chief will make no changes to current uniform issue based on submission of one individual, one site or one group of personnel. Recommend you coordinate your efforts through our labor organization to ensure overall acceptance of the proposal by the majority of our personnel.
- **Status:** Not accepted

## Runs and Workers

Region wide the troops responded to a total of **865** Structural and Mutual Aid calls, **31** Airfield responses, and **25** miscellaneous call for total of **921** responses during the month of March.

Fire District	Structural	Airfield	Mutual Aid	Other
Sewells Point	258	7	32	3
Little Creek	84	0	26	0
Portsmouth	165	0	0	1
Virginia Beach	186	24	14	4
Peninsula	43	0	0	0
Mechanicsburg	19	0	9	7
NAVSES	3	0	3	10
Willow Grove	16	0	7	0

### Sewells Point

- **03/04/04:** Alert I, Crash companies responded to LP-21 ramp area for a confirmed fire in the cockpit, investigation revealed passenger dome light had shorted and tripped breaker, aircraft crew extinguished fire with a Halon extinguisher.
- **03/10/04:** Alert II, Crash companies responded to Chambers field for a reported C-2 with combined loss of hydraulics, aircraft made an arrested landing on runway 10 without incident, the C-2 had hydraulic fluid down port side, cleaned up by T-line.
- **03/13/04:** At 1150 hours, personnel responded to 641 E.Morrell Circle for a reported structural fire. Upon arrival personnel was advised that there had been smoke and flames coming from a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window. Personnel gained access to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window via a ladder and discovered a small fire on a dresser caused by a candle. Fire was extinguished with a minimal amount of water.

### Portsmouth

- **3/24/04:** Units responded to Scott Center Annex building 310 the Commissary for a reported fire. Upon arrival units found a fire in a large construction type dumpster. The fire was attacked and extinguished with no extension to the structure.
- **3/29/04:** Units responded to the USS Roosevelt for an injured person. Upon arrival investigation determined the victim was located on the sixth deck in an ammo well. Crews found the patient had been struck in the head with a roll of paper weighing 40 lbs. They began patient care and packaging while others began to prepare rigging for extraction. After the patient was successfully extricated from the space he was transported ALS to NRMC.
- **03/30/04:** Units responded to container of Ammonium hydroxide spilled in compartment 4-44-4-A aboard the USS Roosevelt. Fire crews in fully encapsulated suit placed damaged container in over-pack drums. Four engines, ladder, A/C and Batt. Chief were on the incident. Portsmouth City fire rescue back-fill NNSY station and NRMC station.

## Virginia Beach

- **03/11/04:** Structural and Crash Crews responded to Hangar 145 for a flame detector malfunction causing the foam system to activate and discharge approximately 25 gallons. Fire Department personnel shutdown system and cleaned up the spill.
- **03/18/04:** Engine-601 and Squad responded to a MVA on the 1300 block of Ballahack Road. Overturned dump truck. Packaged the driver for transport in Medic-7.
- **03/19/04:** Engine 601 responded to the Mariners Club for a 13 year-old child with his arm stuck up inside the ball return of a pool table. Fire Department personnel disassemble the pool table to free the boy's arm from the hole.

## District News

### Virginia Beach

- **March:** Virginia Beach Fire District performed firefighting skills utilizing the Mobile Structure Trainer. Thanks go out to all the operators for their effort!
- **March:** Chief Charles Davis, Captain Kevin Burns, Firefighters Jason Irwin, Christopher Purcell, and Melissa Hernandez conducted CPR Re-certification training for the Virginia Beach Fire District. Thank you for your support!
- **March:** Captain Kevin Burns and Firefighter Michael Bradberry conducted EVOC certification and refresher training. Thank you for being there when needed!
- **March:** Firefighter's Matthew Champney and Timothy Grimstead successfully completed Orbiter Space Shuttle training at Patrick AFB.
- **March:** Virginia Beach Fire District provided personnel from March 30 – April 2 in support of the Southside Regional Fire Academy EMT Course. Thanks goes out to all for their support!
- **March 27:** Virginia Beach Fire District participated in the Quarterly Security Drill. This drill involved a Cessna crashing into a radar tower and causing injury or death to 15 victims. The Fixed Aircraft trainer was utilized for this training. Drill also integrated security, medical, EOD, and Beach EMS.

### Portsmouth

- **March 3:** NNSY personnel participated in a nuclear refueling fire drill at the rail car enclosure adjacent to a building.
- **March 25:** Portsmouth District personnel participated in a shipboard fire drill on the inactive tender LY Spear.
- **March 29:** NNSY personnel participated in a reactor compartment extrication drill on the USS Florida.



- **March:** The renovation efforts at the ST J station are nearly complete. The men are moving items back into the station. They are looking forward to returning after a long absence. We should be occupying the station any day now.
- **03/26/04:** Chief Bucky Hurley departed the Portsmouth District. Chief Hurley served for over twenty years at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Our best wishes are with him in all his future endeavors.
- **03/29/04:** Chief Roger Fawcett arrived for duty at the Portsmouth site. Welcome aboard Chief.

### Willow Grove

- **March:** Preplanning for Operation EDITH base home fire drill night on 14 April 2004.
- **March:** Pre-planning 913<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing celebration for return from Iraqi Freedom deployment.

### Peninsula

- **03/29/04:** Chief Chaney reported for duty.

### Mechanicsburg

- **March:** Captain Higgins, NSA CO received a thank-you in the form of a resolution from the Hampden Township Board of Commissioner for fire department support/services throughout the years

### NAVSES

- **March:** Emergency Spill Response quarterly drill, held with NAVSES Environmental dept.

### Sewells Point

- **03/29/04:** Chief Kline reported aboard.

## Health & Safety

It's the busiest stretch of road in your district and at 1:30 in the morning it seems all too familiar to your engine company. As the transport is leaving scene, you realize you're a MESS! Blood, sweat and tears (not necessarily your own) mixed with gas, diesel, and just a hint of break fluid make for a potpourri worthy of the job. But working scenes like this demand quick clean up before you touch the first doorknob, seat belt, or steering wheel. Your eyes quickly shoot to your flash-hood but your brain knows better! And your bunker pants look more like the rag hanging from Goober's (of Mayberry RFD fame) pocket, no use wiping there. So now what?

Well, just as each item you used before and during the incident has a specific use, your bio clean-up gear has a time and place. The time is now, but the place? Just where is that little bottle of hand antiseptic and/or the bleach solution? Are there any clean towels left on scene?

All great questions and in the middle of the night after a hefty call none too easy to answer. But with a few hours of pre-planning you could make the task of getting “this stuff” (whatever it is) off your hands, radios and tools a snap.

First, lets take a look at what we’ll need. SOP A-17 is the NRFRHR Exposure Control Plan in which it outlines the basic items required. Biohazard bags, absorbent material, dustpan and brush, 1% bleach solution and absorbent disposable towels. Remember this is just the minimum! Use your imagination and try to foresee what items around the station might be useful on scene. The second issue here is what can we do to make these important items accessible, readily identifiable, and easy to use? Although the green soap fits perfectly next to the bar oil in the rear compartment, substituting one for the other could prove interesting to say the least. A simple solution would be to make a bio clean-up “kit” and label it as such. In this way, the brief clean up needed to remain safe before mounting up and heading home doesn’t turn into a late night interstate “Where’s Waldo” marathon. As far as “ease of use” the KISS theory is very much applicable here for the kit. A quick and thorough once over of hands and hand tools on scene is enough and the rest can be properly done in station. Once in place, this kit can assist in putting crews back in service quickly, safely, and with minimal effort. So next time you peek up under the jump seat and find what’s reminiscent of a “lost and found” box, gather up the bio gear and put that kit together. On your next late nightger you’ll be glad you did.



- Tom McCaffrey, Peninsula District DECO

## Fire Training Division

- The Training Division would like to thank all the ARFF Instructors and MAFTD Operators for their assistance with the Winter ARFF Certification Course. The Training Division will get its first look at the new State ARFF curriculum 30 April at the State of Virginia ARFF Conference.
- Training Officer / Battalion Chiefs John Bebb, Kevin Janney and Mike Pope evaluated and assisted as controllers at the NAVSEA RadCon Audit Drill on the USS Montpelier berthed at Naval Station Norfolk on 31 March 2004. Great Job by Regional Shift Commander /



Assistant Chief Donald Wilson and the “A” Shift staff on duty at Sewells Point Fire District who participated in the drill.

- All eligible candidates who completed all required re-certification EVOC modules received government driver licenses renewals through March 2007.

## EMS Training

- Planning for BLS and ALS Test Sites at Fire Academy April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Completed and sent out BLS (CPR) Administrative Instructor Update packages and new Instructor Cards for instructors who expired/expiring.
- Continuing coordinating/training Suffolk folks with EMT-Enhanced course, which is complete pending field and clinicals.
- Distributed new *BLS for Healthcare Providers Renewal* Videos to all sites.
- Working on updating meds in Chemical Antidote boxes (adding Doxycycline, replacing near expired Albuterol) completed Sewells and Portsmouth Districts.
- MMRS Strike Team Ops and Training committee meetings cancelled for this month.
- Attended TEMS Education Committee meeting on 12 March.
- Conducted Fire Department EMS meeting on March 16th.
- Provided civilian rad training info (Department of Emergency Management and SBCCOM) to NNSY Rad Emergency Management for ongoing civilian responder training project.

## Fire Academy Operations

- EMT-Enhanced class completed didactic and began clinical and field rotations. The class tests on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Southside EMT-Basic course began on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The class of 21 students was completed on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and will test on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Special thanks to FF/PM Jake Miller (N04SP), CAPT Brad Burgess (N04PT), FF Mike Russell (Portsmouth Fire), and CAPT Mike Stockton (Portsmouth Fire) for assisting with teaching the classroom portion of EMT-B. Thanks also goes to the many folks from the Portsmouth and Virginia Beach Districts, and Portsmouth fire Stations 10 and 11 who provided skill coaches/instructors for practical skills in the afternoons. This instructor-intensive course could not happen without your support!
- CPR for Health Care Providers for new academy students was conducted on 5 March. Congratulations to new BLS instructor Jeremy Stewart (Portsmouth District) who is now released to teach on his own, and also Jason Irwin (Virginia Beach District) who has affiliated with us and was successfully monitored during this course. Jeremy and Jason were the leads for this fire academy course.
- The training center hosted one of two TEMS EMT-Basic Evaluator Training courses on Saturday 27 March with fifteen attendees.

## Monthly Training Tip

### **Monthly Training Tip:**

**Every 80 hours** Ron Siarnicki, Director of the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation (NFFF) receives a notice of a firefighter fatality. During March 238 people with a personal passion for stopping preventable firefighter fatalities gathered in Tampa, FL for a Firefighter Life Safety Summit. The U.S. Fire Administration has tasked the NFFF with developing directives to reduce firefighter deaths by 25% in five years and by 50% in 10 years. Attendees were divided into groups to formulate and develop strategies to stop firefighters from getting killed or dying unnecessarily in one of six domains: Structural Firefighting; Health and Fitness; Vehicle Safety; Training and General Research; Wildland; and Reducing Fires.

This group didn't work any miracles. They didn't create any new laws. Familiar as the chilly sound of the bell during the last alarm were calls of "zero tolerance" for firefighters not using seat belts, emphasis on personal accountability, situational awareness, personal protective equipment and communications. "Accountability" was the one word that permeated every single hour of this summit. It's the same story and the fire service has had enough. Everyone must be responsible for himself or herself as well as those above, below and around you. This profession can ask for nothing less.

Vina Drennen, widow of FDNY's John Drennen, addressed the group as a survivor. The children of fallen firefighters do not glorify their father's death, she said. "They are heartbroken. There's a lot more to it than getting a folded flag and a rose." "We need to change this culture...." Drennen said. "We've suffered enough. I challenge the fire service to stop the line-of-duty deaths."

The culture, tradition and habits of firefighters across North America don't change easily. Firefighters need to be convinced that attention to detail, health and wellness will save their lives. All change really starts and ends with the individual. What initiatives can you implement **today** to prevent firefighter deaths? Let's get going.

This tip is a summary of an article written, by Janet Wilmoth, Editor Fire Chief Magazine.

## **On the Horizon**

- EMS Consolidated Test Site will be hosted by SRFTC on Saturday, 17 April 2004.
- Navy Regional Fire Rescue Safety Stand Down 3 and 4 May 2004.
- CY2004 Space Shuttle Contingency Training is scheduled for NAS Oceana 18 – 21 May 2004.
- Driver Aerial Operator hosted by Virginia Beach Fire Department POC Linda Allen 757-219-2888
- Navy Regional Fire Rescue Annual Hazardous Materials Incident Commander June 2004 TBA
- Virginia Fire Instructor College 9 – 11 July 2004 in Salem VA at the Campus of Roanoke College [www.vdfp.state.va.us](http://www.vdfp.state.va.us)
- Virginia Weekend at the National Fire Academy 6 – 8 August 2004 [www.vdfp.state.va.us](http://www.vdfp.state.va.us)
- MTN CPR Instructor TBA

## DoD Certifications

Through 31 March 2004 we have processed 1602 request for DoD Certifications

	<b>Certified to Current Level</b>	<b>Certified Above Level Promotion Eligible</b>
<b>Personnel in Category</b>	315	123
<b>Personnel Trained</b>	352	352
<b>Percent</b>	89.49%	34.94%

## Fire Prevention and Public Education.

Facility Inspections	849
High-Hazard Inspections	340
Pier Inspections	2614
Permits/Authorizations	1953
Family Housing Inspections	802
Fire Drills	63
Public Education Training/Classes	73
Personnel Trained	1753

## The Fire Prevention Division supported the following events:

- **March:** 2 events for 30,029 personnel:
  - Star-Base Atlantis Rocket Shoot
  - St. Patrick's Day Parade in Norfolk.
- **Up-coming Events for Fire Prevention:**
  - April - Peninsula Month of the Military Child
  - May - Pungo Strawberry Festival Parade
  - July - Housing National Night Out Event Fleet Rec. Park
  - October - Virginia Children's Festival



"Month of the Military Child" parade at Little Creek Child Development Center.



**STAY SAFE!**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To be a responsive and efficient organization providing quality fire protection and emergency services. To continually improve our services in fire suppression, fire prevention, and fire education. To provide all services in the most cost effective manner and to protect the lives and property of personnel assigned to, operating in, or located within Navy Regional Mid-Atlantic, Hampton Roads.

